



NEWS RELEASE

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Chief Justice Meets Today With Justice System Partners in San Francisco

San Francisco—Justice system partners and court leaders from the San Francisco Bay Area will meet today with Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Administrative Director of the Courts William C. Vickrey, and representatives of the Judicial Council to discuss key challenges and issues facing the state judicial branch.

The meeting is from 2:30 to 4:40 p.m. in the Superior Court of San Francisco County, 400 McAllister Street.

This is the second of three outreach programs to review historic court reforms of the past decade and shared future goals for the California courts. The first meeting was held last August in Sacramento and the third is scheduled for October 30 in Los Angeles.

Topics to be discussed include the public's trust and confidence in the courts, strategic planning, and strengthening the justice system. Speakers will include Christine Patton, Regional Administrative Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, and these leaders of the Superior Court of San Francisco County: Presiding Judge Robert L. Dondero, Assistant Presiding Judge David Louis Ballati, Executive Officer Gordon Park-Li, and former Presiding Judge Donna J. Hitchens.

Justice system partners to be represented include the State Bar of California, California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, California Women Lawyers, Public Interest Clearinghouse, Legal Aid Association of California, Bar Association of San Francisco, Volunteer Legal Services Program of San Francisco, and the offices of the San Francisco Public Defender and District Attorney. In addition, representatives of several Bay Area law schools will attend, as well as the presiding judges and executive officers of Bay Area superior courts.

***Note to Editors:** The news media are welcome to attend the meeting. Please call Lynn Holton (415-865-7726) or Daisy Yee (415-865-8929).*